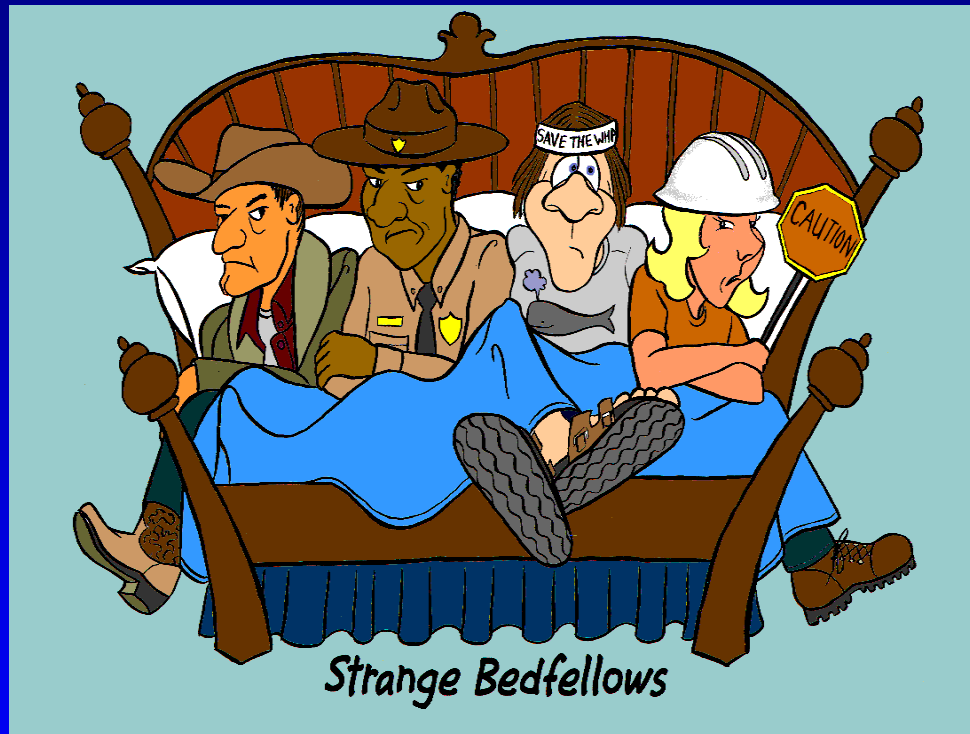


# WEED MANAGEMENT AREAS

*The Good , the Bland and the Awesome*



Steve Schoenig

CA Department of Fish & Game

# A Brief and Biased History of Weed Control

- **1900 - 1950** Primitive tools for weed control, emphasis: prevention and local eradication, Co. Ag Depts., CDFA, USDA, UC, Ranchers and Farmers
- **1950 - 1970** New chemical tools gave more options for land with heavy infestations, easier eradication
- **1970 -** Earth Day fast-tracked Aldo Leopold land ethics
- **1978 -** Prop 13 Jarvis Gann (end of the 1/3, 1/3, 1/3 cost-share and county abatement)
- **1990, 2001 -** National recessions (state weed program cut by 1/3 & 1/2)
- **1992 -** Greater Yellowstone Weed Management Area formed – new herbicides
- **1995-7 -** Lassen Swat Team, CSPAW, Fresno/Mariposa/Madera, El Dorado WMAs
- **1998-present -** Emphasis on partnerships and collaboration, new tools, Cal-IPC, restoration, diverse funding, volunteerism, CA Invasive Species Council

**Changes in Rural/Urban Population, 1800-1990**

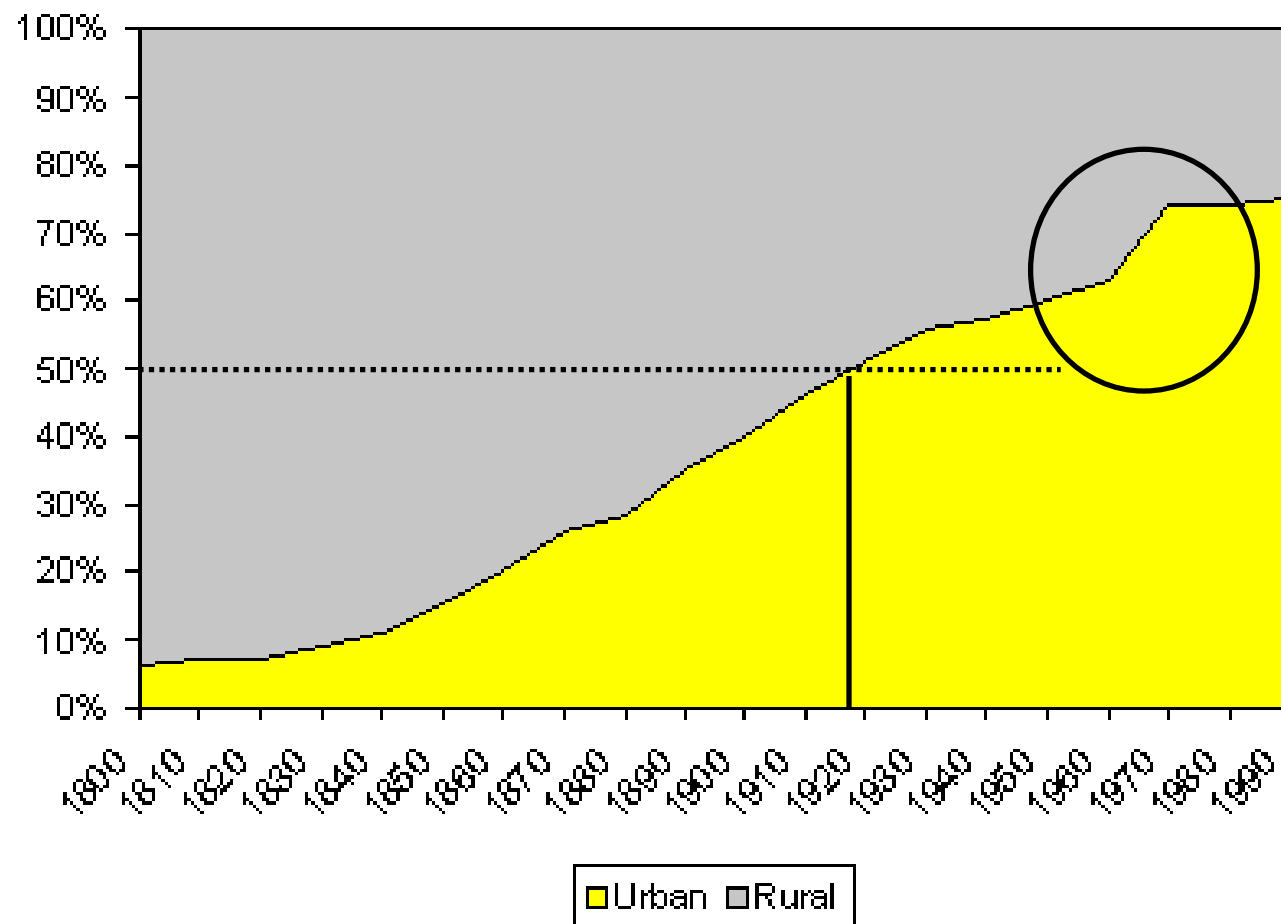


Table 2. Public Attitudes about Government Effort to Address Environmental Issues

Thinking about *Environmental Issue X*, how much effort do you think the government should put into addressing this issue?

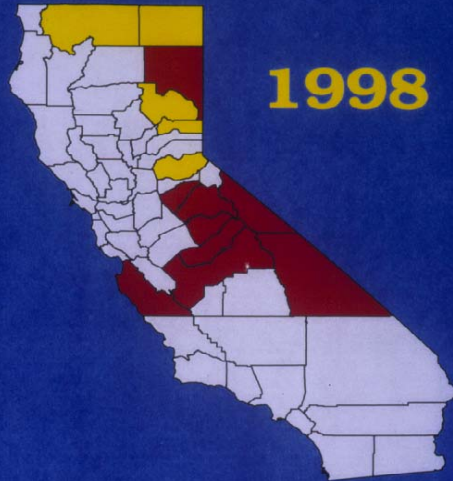
Environmental Issues	A Lot More (2)	A Little Bit More (1)	About the Same (0)	A Little Bit Less (-1)	A Lot Less (-2)	Mean (SD)
Protecting community drinking water	40%	31%	26%	1%	1%	1.07 (0.92)
Reducing pollution of the nation's river's, lakes and ecosystems	40	29	26	3	3	0.99 (1.02)
Reducing urban air pollution issues like smog	36	28	27	4	4	0.89 (1.06)
Preserving national forests and other federally-protected areas	29	30	31	6	4	0.74 (1.07)
Reducing national air pollution problems like acid rain	32	28	28	6	6	0.73 (1.15)
Preventing loss of the world's tropical rain forests	36	23	26	5	10	0.72 (1.27)
Maintaining national parks	25	29	41	2	3	0.71 (0.96)
Reducing emissions that contribute to global warming	38	23	21	5	13	0.70 (1.36)
Preserving damage to the earth's ozone layer	35	23	25	5	11	0.66 (1.31)
Preserving natural areas near where I live	24	29	39	3	4	0.65 (1.02)
Managing urban sprawl	25	28	34	4	8	0.56 (1.15)
Protecting the world's plant and animal species from extinction	27	26	29	7	10	0.54 (1.24)

# County and Multi-County WMAs

Weed Management Areas



Weed Management Areas



Weed Management Areas



Weed Management Areas



A Cooperative Weed Management Area is  
not an really an area.

A Weed Management Area is a group of  
people at the local level.



# WMA Accomplishments - More than the Sum of the Parts

- Enhanced Cooperation & Sharing
- Weed Education & Awareness
- Tests Plots, Workshops, Symposia,
- Regional Mapping & Regional Priorities
- Early Detection & Rapid Response
- Control in High-value sites
  
- \$\$\$\$ = More Weeds Killed

## Statewide Accomplishments

- Over \$9,000,000 distributed to CWMAs in California over 8 years.
- Work toward eradication of +2,015 populations of high priority weed infestations.
- The treatment of more than +128,421 acres of high priority weed infestations.
- +\$7,025,187 in matching funds from outside grant funding and the contribution of in-kind donations and services by Weed Management Areas (WMAs) valuing \$9,109,946 = **(3:1)** cost share ratio.
- The development of new local partnerships between public agencies, private landowners, agriculturalists and conservationists, with outreach programs reaching +88,803 people.
- Attendance by 6,781 people at regular weed management meetings throughout the state.

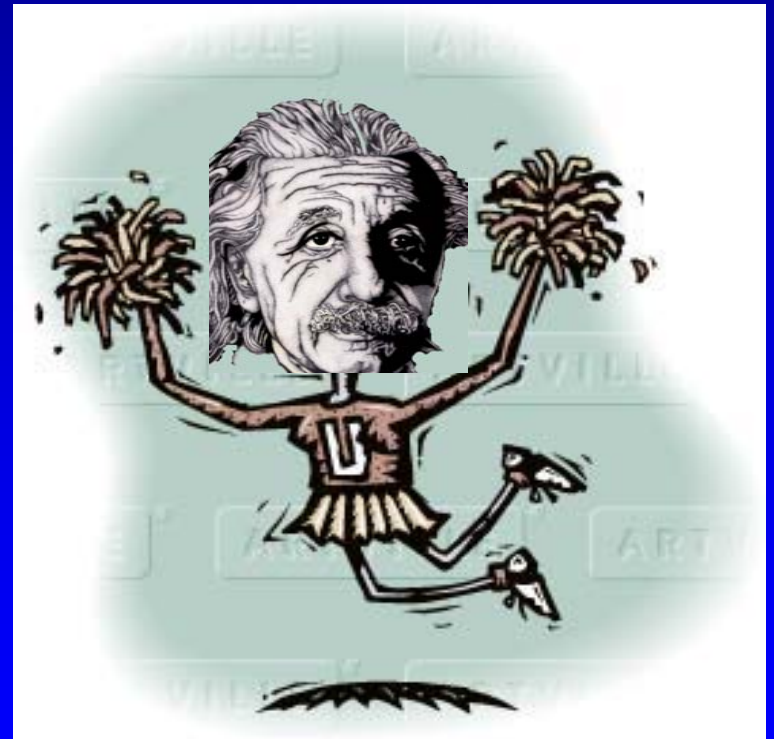


## And what makes any group of people motivated and effective?

- A clear objective and goal – achievable focus.
- Enough members or participants – critical mass.
- Access to tools, models, cookbooks, and strategies.
- Access to resources (time & money.)
- Dynamic and skillfull leadership.
- Mutual respect.
- Permission, support, desire or mandate for participants to be there.
- Accomplishments and evidence of success.
- Donuts and coffee.

# Good Leadership

- Good leader(s) must be a good meeting facilitator.
- A good leader needs to “care”.
- Good leaders are either very enthusiastic & animated, or very smart.
- Ideally they are both.



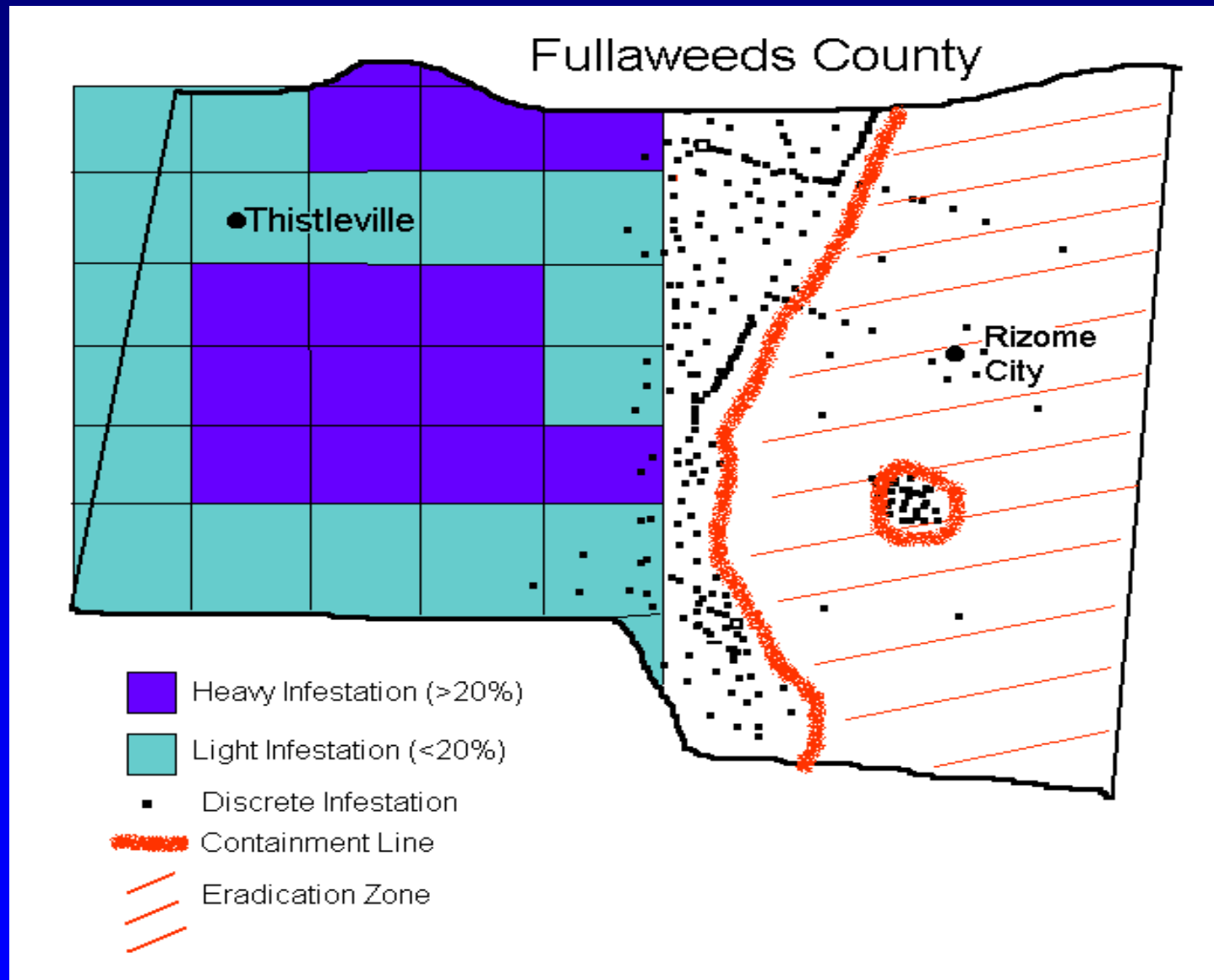
# Leadership

Leadership needs to be distributed or in the hands of paid staff dedicated to leadership. Otherwise even the best leader will become tired and discouraged and will **burnout**.

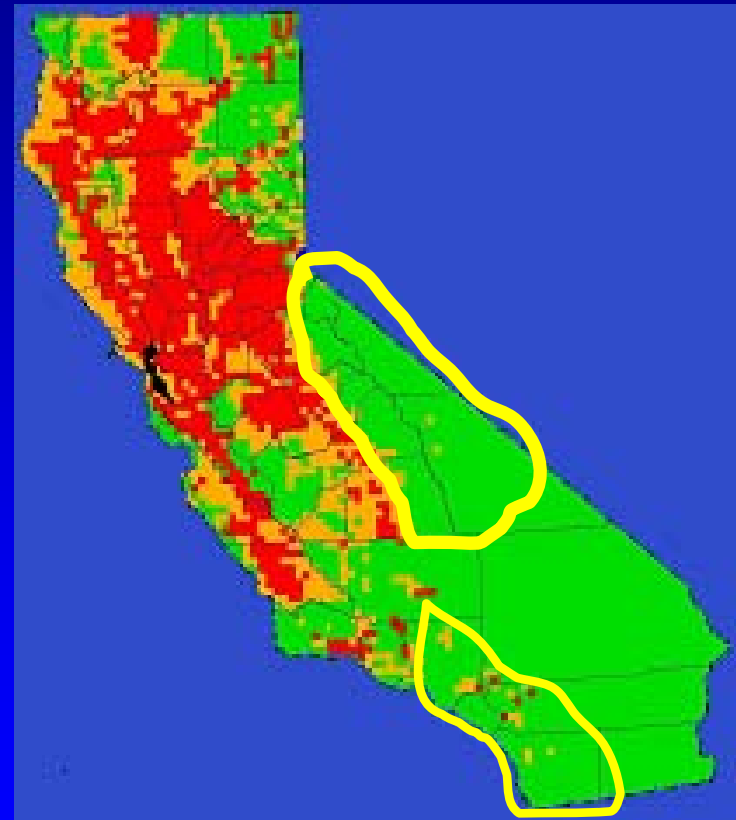
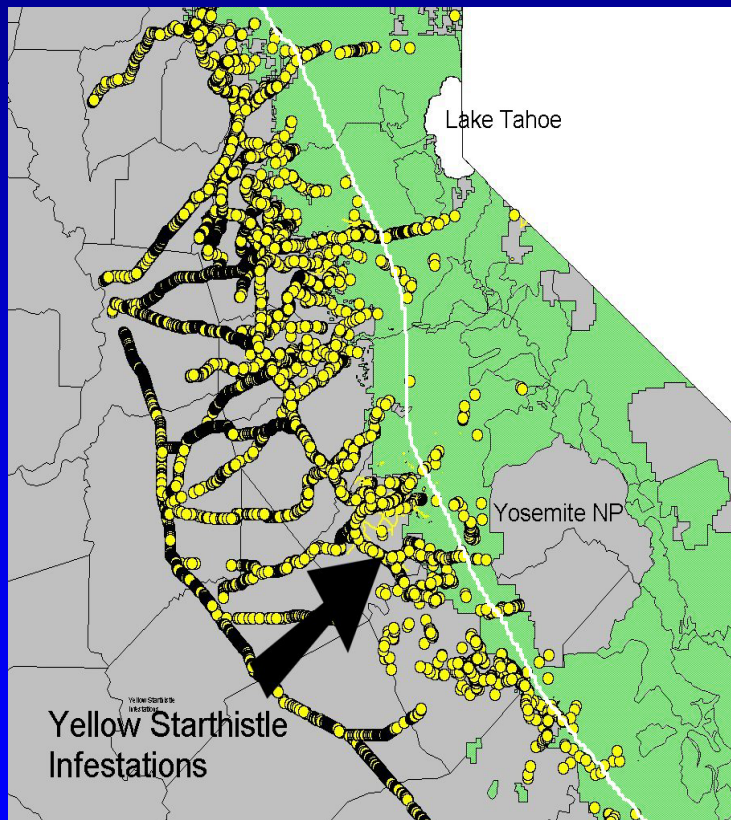
Distributed leadership:

- Co-leaders
- Rotating leadership
- Steering Committee
- Good Committee Structure

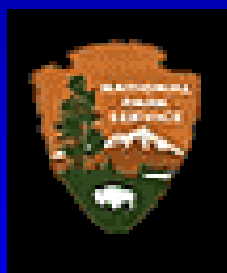
# Stopping Weed Spread



# Containment of Spread – The Corridor & Outlier Connection



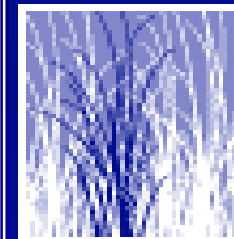
# Bay Area Early Detection Network (BAEDN)



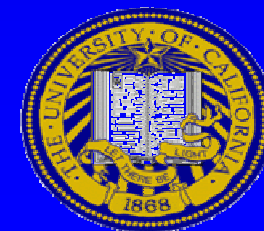
SAN FRANCISCO ESTUARY  
INVASIVE SPARTINA PROJECT



MARIN MUNICIPAL  
WATER DISTRICT



California Invasive  
Plant Council





[www.cdfa.ca.gov/weedhome](http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/weedhome)

